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SOURCE

1. The Modern Current Thought League (Hyŏntae Sachŏ Yŏmsaeng) (現代思潮聯盟) was organized in March 1950 at Seoul by HONG Ken-won (洪健源)* and YIM Pyong (林平). It had its offices at 203 1-ka Roehyon-dong, Seoul, and in the East Annex Building of the National Library in Seoul. There was also an office in Pusan at 102 Chungmu-dong, telephone 3410. The stated objective of the League was to work for the ideal of national socialism.
2. The League Manifesto reads as follows: "We solemnly declare that we will try internally to accomplish a unified democratic nation by developing the natural and historical growth of the state on a foundation of idealistic armament of human morality, which should be based on the fundamental idea of developing natural spirit for reviving the state and the nation, and by supporting various new and old systems of politics, economics, culture, community effort, education, and other matters for creative work, and, externally, to grasp correctly the current ideas of the turning point and to strive for democracy in the new endeavor of the world for the peace of mankind."
3. The following constitution was adopted:
 - a. We intend to develop ideas for education and, rising above all factionalism, to cultivate people the times need.
 - b. We will go ahead in the establishment of an autonomous paradise by raising national morality with nation-wide love and an industrious spirit.
 - c. We will establish a practical and theoretical system of politics, economics, culture, etc., for creation of a newly-rising national culture and for world progress towards current ideas of the turning point.**
 - d. We will sweep away the bad traditional ideas of relying upon foreign powers, will respect the autonomy of each nation, and will reject any action of territorial invasion in the world.

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- e. We expect to establish peace among mankind, making the world like a large family, on the three principles of recognition of personal rights, freedom of speech, and destruction of classes.
4. In addition, the League announced a code of action, as follows:
- a. Pure and lofty personality is founded on virtue, courtesy, integrity, fidelity, and sympathetic and philanthropic belief.
 - b. We expect to have progress in national life, promotion of public welfare, and development of education through our cooperative organization.
 - c. We will sustain our conventional national morality and will reject fickle and frivolous manners and will have a substantial and healthy life.
 - d. We will develop democratic labor unions and will establish a concrete foundation of nationally self-sufficient economics through cooperation of capital and labor.
 - e. We will sweep away the evils of the country by stopping monarchic politics and by renewing the personnel of the government through a legal and nationwide maneuver.
 - f. We will overcome the national disaster through the concentrated nationwide power of the people by emphasizing and developing social activities and the position of the women of the nation.
 - g. We will renew the old and new education system on a foundation of democracy and nationalism and will unify the nations with a national ideal.
 - h. We will establish non-exploitation policies for the laboring classes and an autonomous state of Korea by reforming various contradictions of the times -- the anti-nationalist monarchic influence and the principle of the almighty dollar.***
 - i. We expect to maintain the existence and position of our state internationally by means of diplomacy.
 - j. We expect to establish a democratic and national-socialist theory according to current ideas of the world at the turning point and to carry out complete and creative new current ideas after studying and perfecting them.
 - k. We expect to construct a new order for the world on the principle of equality of personal rights and equality of resources.
5. After 25 June 1950, the League moved its headquarters to Pusan. After a period of quiescence, it began, in the spring of 1951, to resume activity almost as a provisional organization for a future political party, professing the aim of reform of government. It is affiliated with well-known intellectuals and scholars. In mid-April 1951, it was striving to include in its membership various government officials who were progressive and reform-minded and members of the National Assembly who oppose the government. The League had formulated plans for the publication of three newspapers, the Han Il News (Han Il Chu Bo) (韓一週報), a weekly; Public Opinion in Political Circles (Chong Ke Long Yon), a monthly; and the Critics Daily News (Pi Pan Sin Mun) (批判新聞). Publication had not commenced, however, by the middle of May.

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6. In mid-April 1951, the League had the following officers and departments:

President: Yi Si-yong (李始榮), former vice-president of the ROK.

Chairman: HONG Kon-won, professor in the Literature and Science College of Seoul University.

Departments:

General Affairs: (open)

Secretary and Planning: YU Kyu-song (劉敬聖), journalist employed by the International Public Opinion Company.

Organization: SIN Sang-ho (申相範), professor at Tongkuk University.

Propaganda: CHON Kwan-u (全觀宇), president of the Literature and Science College of Seoul University.

Diplomacy: CHA Kuk-chan (蔡國贊),**** deputy chairman of the labor union of the Seoul Electric Company.

Research: (open)

International Affairs: SIN Yong-sop (申永燮), professor at Tongkuk University

Foreign Affairs: (open)

Instruction: (open)

Athletics: (open)

Literature: PAK Yang (朴陽), poet.

Business Operations: (open)

Finance: (open)

Women's Affairs: (open)

7. The League planned to finance its activities, according to rumors, by establishing a trading firm, the Hankuk Enterprising Company (Hankuk Ki Op Hoe Sa) (韓國企業會社). CH'AE Su-il (蔡秀雲) was to invest 500 million ROK won in the firm.

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* [REDACTED] Comment: HONG was one of the ROK leaders arrested in the National Assembly handbill case.

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** [REDACTED] Comment: Since this material was received in English without accompanying text, it has been impossible to elucidate this point.

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*** [REDACTED] Comment: This statement may be a possible indication that this group is being used by some of its members as a Communist front. Not enough is known about the personnel concerned, however, to evaluate the group's aims and policy at present.

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**** [REDACTED] Comment: CHA, employed in the transportation department of the firm, was one of the persons who broke up a company trade union meeting in 1947.

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